



Falmouth Congregational Church United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation

267 Falmouth Road

Falmouth, Maine 04105

207.781.3413



Serving Christ and Community since
1754 Third Parish Church;
1833 The Brick Church

The Reverend Amelia Edson



THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"A being is free only when it can determine and limit its activity."- Karl Barth

LIFE OF THE CHURCH***WELCOME AND THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

PRELUDE

"All Things Bright and Beautiful"

Arranged by
Robert J. Hughes

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Based on Psalm 139: 1-6,13, 16-18)

One: O Lord, You have searched us and known us.

All: You know when we sit down and when we rise up; you know our thoughts before we think them.

One: You know where we go in the day, and when we lie down at night;

All: You are acquainted with all our ways. Even before a word is on our tongue, You know it completely.

One: You hem us in, O Lord, going behind and before us.

All: Lord, your knowledge is too great for us; we cannot attain it.

One: If we were to take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand would lead us, and your right hand hold us fast.

All: For it was you who formed us; you knit us together in our mother's womb

One: And we are fearfully and wonderfully made.

All: In you book were written all the days that were formed for us, when none of them yet existed.

One: Let us worship God, who was there at the beginning and is there at the end. Amen.

***HYMN**

"All Things Bright and Beautiful"

No. 61

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION¹

One: Gentle and holy God, we acknowledge to you, to one another, and to ourselves that we have fallen short of what you call us to be.

All: We have stifled our gifts, and wasted our time.

One: We have avoided opportunities to offer kindness, but have been quick to take offense.

All: We have pretended that we could make no contribution to peace and justice in our world

One: We have excused ourselves from risk taking in our lives and in our communities.

All: Have mercy on us, forgive us, and help us to live differently.

One: We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, whose call to follow him haunts our every prayer.

All: Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: We know this to be true: God has loved us, loves us now, and will love us always.

All: The mercy of God is endless, God's love is eternal.

One: Let us believe the good news of the gospel.

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

THE READING OF SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

(NRSV p. 662; RSV p.666[†])

Luke 15: 1-10

(NRSV p. 67; RSV p.74[†])

THE SERMON

There at the Beginning and at the End

Rev. Edson

*HYMN

“Come and Find the Quiet Center”

No. 575

During this hymn, Ushers will collect prayer cards for the Pastoral Prayer.

THE OFFERTORY

“Psalm 139”

Mic Thurber

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessing flow:

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host;

Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.

¹ Based on Confession by Maren Tirabassi, printed in The New Century Hymnal

PRAYER DEDICATION

One: Let us praise God not only with our lips, but with our lives.

All: Lord, we offer these gifts to you as a symbol of our willingness to join in your work and be transformed in Your image. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER

One: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: May the peace of Christ dwell in your hearts.

All: Christ is our peace, our light, and our hope.

One: Let us pray.

SILENT PRAYER

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" No. 73**

*BENEDICTION

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE "Go in Peace" No.445**

POSTLUDE "Festive Trumpet Tune" David German

*** During the postlude, you may be seated to listen, or you may leave.**

Throughout the order of worship, if print is in **bold**, words may be spoken in unison.

(*)Please rise in body or spirit.

† NRSV Bibles are on the pulpit side of the sanctuary and the RSV Bibles are on the lectern side of the sanctuary.

Visiting Falmouth Congregational this morning? Please fill out a blue visitor card and put it in the offering plate so that we can send you a (personal, non-spam) welcome email!



*The chancel flowers are given in honor of
Jeaneen Coleman's birthday on September 17th,
with love from her family.*

Worship Participants

Greeters: Tom & Judy Crosby
Liturgist: Marilee Beinema
Ushers: Joe & Jo Blinick
Bus Driver: Phil Pierce

**PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE
IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS**

**Paul & Sarah Davis
Louise Thomas
John Graustein
Maureen Grubb
Ginny Hamilton
David Horne**



**Jennifer Strobel
Bee O'Brien
Myron Krueger
Maytha Southard
Jaqueline Rogers**

**Diane Mathieu and the Family of Donald Packer
Family and Friends of George Crockett
Friends and Family of Ottavia "Tavia" Corey**

*Please let the church office know if we have missed someone and please update us so
that we may better pray for them. Thank you.*



Next Sunday's Lectionary

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1; Psalms 79:1-9; I Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We **welcome** you to worship and invite you to join us after the service in Fellowship Hall for refreshments. If you are visiting us today, please pick up a **Welcome Bag** in Fellowship Hall or in the Narthex. Please sign the guest book and fill out a Welcome card, too.

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**October Congregator Deadline is TODAY! Please get your information to Jess ASAP**  
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Rev. Edson Installation: All members of the Cumberland Association of Churches and Ministers will be invited to gather with us during worship on **Sunday, September 29** for the official installation of Reverend Amelia Edson, recognition of Jane Stegemann's Call to a ministry of visitation and joining of new members.

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**Today, September 15: New Member Gathering.** Interested in learning about Membership? Come to an informal information session today after church from 11:30 AM -12:30. Those who join the church will be welcomed on September 29 during worship.

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Drivers Needed: We are looking for volunteers who could assist with taking our family of Asylum seekers, Elvine, Marcello and Marcella, to Portland for appointments, to the grocery store, to English language classes, etc. If you are able to drive, please sign up with Virginia Eddy.

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**Holly Days Fair: It's never too early to think about our Annual Holly Days Fair! This year's Holly Days Fair will be held on Saturday, November 23.** We hope everyone will be a part of this important and FUN event. Feel free to contact us with your ideas and any questions:

Cathy Bowden/Coordinator of Communication

[cathybbowden@gmail.com](mailto:cathybbowden@gmail.com)

Kathie Sinnett/Coordinator of Volunteers

[kathie.sinnett@gmail.com](mailto:kathie.sinnett@gmail.com)

Sarah Davis/Coordinator of Logistics

[sadavis40@gmail.com](mailto:sadavis40@gmail.com)

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Have a good joke, theological question, or just low on caffeine? Drop by for **Coffee with the Pastor**, every Tuesday from 12:30-2:00 in Fellowship Hall.

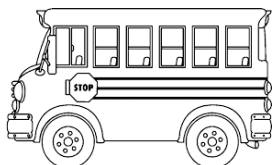
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Interested in learning more about a **multi-church youth group** in Falmouth? Come to the planning meeting next Sunday here at FCC at 12:30 PM.



***Falmouth Congregational Church is a fragrance-free environment. Please help us to accommodate our members and visitors who are chemically sensitive to fragrances and other scented products. Thank you for not wearing perfume, aftershave, scented hand lotion, fragranced hair products and similar products.***



**FCC BUS DRIVERS** Should you have trouble reaching any of the drivers, anyone will know who is driving. Please do call if you need to cancel your ride. This is sincerely appreciated. Thank you.



1<sup>st</sup> Sunday: Jack Davis 207-233-1707  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday: Paul Davis 207-332-7268  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday: Phil Pierce 207-781-3769  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday: Ann Sanborn 207-318-6906  
5<sup>th</sup> Sunday: Mark Horton 207-838-1544

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The Falmouth Food Pantry is open on the following days in September:

Mondays: September 9 and 23 9:00 AM -11:00 AM
Tuesdays: September 10, 17, and 24 9:30 AM -11:30 AM
Thursdays: September 12, 19, and 26 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM

If you happen to have any "extra" vegetables from your garden (yes, even zucchini!)... Please call 781-4670 to contact Nancy Lightbody, who will arrange to pick them up and deliver them to the Food Pantry.

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***Church Office Hours***

***Monday-Thursday: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM, Closed on Friday***

**Church Phone: 207.781.3413**

Visit our Web site: [www.falmouthcongregationalchurch.org](http://www.falmouthcongregationalchurch.org)  
Church Office e-mail: [fccdesk@maine.rr.com](mailto:fccdesk@maine.rr.com)

Reverend Amelia Edson  
Pastor  
[pastorameliafcc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorameliafcc@gmail.com)

Kristen Coleman  
Christian Education Administrator  
[davinici.experience@gmail.com](mailto:davinici.experience@gmail.com)

Doris Krueger  
Minister of Music  
[dnkrueger@gmail.com](mailto:dnkrueger@gmail.com)

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[horton04105@yahoo.com](mailto:horton04105@yahoo.com)

Jess Dickson  
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Kim Hendry  
Vice Moderator  
[shendry001@maine.rr.com](mailto:shendry001@maine.rr.com)

Katharina Roderick  
Office Assistant  
[fcc.ucc.desk@gmail.com](mailto:fcc.ucc.desk@gmail.com)

# THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

## Monday, September 16<sup>th</sup>

7:00 PM Fiddle-icious Rehearsal

## Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>

9:30 AM Food Pantry Open

10:00 AM Bible Study at Ocean View

12:30 PM Rev. Edson Office Hours (until 2 PM)

## Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>

7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

## Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup>

4:30 PM Food Pantry Open

6:00 PM Meet the Pastor Small Dinner Group

7:00 PM Boy Scout Meeting

## Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> Neighbors in Need Appeal

9:00 AM Choir Practice

10:00 AM Worship Service

11:15 AM Coffee and Fellowship

11:30 AM Council Meeting

11:30 AM Ministry of Education Meeting

12:30 PM Youth Group Planning Meeting



## UPCOMING EVENTS: MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**Community Supper:** October 24<sup>th</sup>, 4:30pm

**Family Promise Host Week:** October 27- November 3

### Family Promise Training Sessions:

- Thursday, **September 26**, 5:30-8:30pm, Saint Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, 268 Brown Street, Westbrook
- Sunday, **October 27**, 9:30am-12:30pm, Congregation Bet Ha'am, 81 Westbrook St, South Portland
- Thursday, **November 21**, 5:30-8:30pm at First Congregational Church in South Portland.